

**Remarks**

Claims 1-19, 27, and 35 are pending claims in the application, with claims 1, 9, 10, 11, and 35 being the independent claims. Claims 19 and 27 are sought to be amended. Claims 20-26 and 28-34 are sought to be canceled without any prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has stated that pending original claims 1-8 are generic claims and claims 9-35 are directed to at least six distinct species. These include:

Species I (claims 11-18), described as the second embodiment in the specification, are drawn toward providing a recommendation to a user using a recommendation model that is formed from data structures and updated ratings data structures.

Species II (claims 19-26), described as the third embodiment in the specification, are directed to providing a recommendation to a user using a recommendation model that is formed from data structures and then perturbing the recommendation model.

Species III (claims 27-34), described as the fourth embodiment in the specification, are directed to providing a recommendation to a user using a recommendation model that is formed from data structures and then truncating the recommendation model.

Species IV (claim 35), described as the fifth embodiment in the specification, is directed to providing a recommendation to a user using a recommendation model that is formed from a cross-set of co-occurrences between two ratings matrices.

Species V (claim 9) is directed to providing a recommendation to a user using a recommendation model that is formed from banding a sparse ratings matrix and then distributing the banded sparse ratings matrix to computing nodes.

Species VI (claim 10) is directed to providing a recommendation to a user using a recommendation model that is formed from striping a sparse ratings matrix and then distributing the striped sparse ratings matrix to computing nodes.

The Examiner has required restriction to one of these claim groups. Claims 19 and 27 have been amended to depend from generic claim 1. Thus, Applicants assert that claims 19 and 27 are now grouped with generic claims 1-8.

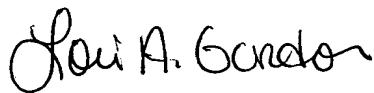
Applicants have elected to prosecute generic claims 1-8, 19, and 27 and claims 11-18 of Species I, without traverse.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Election is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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